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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 14161

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TGEN, UR, US

SUBJ: KOSYGIN-STEVEER MEETING

1. SUMMARY: DURING 40-MINUTE CONVERSATION WITH DR. GUYFORD STEVEER, KOSYGIN SPOKE WARMLY OF PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE US-SOVIET COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND SUGGESTED THAT TWO OR THREE LARGE, HIGH VISIBILITY PROJECTS BE SELECTED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OVER NEXT FEW YEARS IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE TO PUBLIC CONCRETE BENEFITS OF US-SOVIET COOPERATION. END SUMMARY.

2. DR. STEVEER WAS RECEIVED BY KOSYGIN THIS MORNING FOR 40 MINUTE CONVERSATION. STEVEER ACCOMPANIED BY DR. FISK, DCM MATLOCK AND INTERPRETER ZARECHNAK. V.A. KIRILLIN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND CHAIRMAN USSR STATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND SOVIET INTERPRETER WERE ALSO PRESENT.

3. KOSYGIN OPENED CONVERSATION BY INQUIRING WHETHER STEVEER CONSIDERED RESULTS OF CURRENT S&T JOINT COMMISSION MEETING FRUITFUL. STEVEER REPLIED THAT MEETING HAD PROCEEDED VERY EFFICIENTLY AND PRODUCTIVELY, AND THAT HE QUITE SATISFIED WITH RESULTS. KOSYGIN THEN STATED THAT HE HAD READ REPORT OF MEETING
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AND HAD REVIEWED STATUS OF US-SOVIET COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS,

AND AGREED THAT MUCH PROGRESS HAD BEEN ACHIEVED. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS NECESSARY NOW TO PROCEED FROM AGREEMENTS BETWEEN ADMINISTRATORS OF SCIENCE TO CONCRETE PROGRAMS OF JOINT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INVOLVING SCIENTISTS AND TECHNICIANS OF BOTH COUNTRIES. HE STRESSED THAT HE MADE THIS OBSERVATION WITHOUT ANY IMPLICATION OF CRITICISM OF WHAT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED. HE WAS AWARE THAT THE WORK UP TO NOW HAD BEEN NECESSARY TO PREPARE THE GROUND FOR CONCRETE PROJECTS. HE FELT THAT THE TIME HAD COME, HOWEVER, TO SELECT TWO OR THREE LARGE PROJECTS WHICH WOULD EMBODY THE RESULTS OF JOINT RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATE TO THE PUBLIC THE CONCRETE BENEFITS OF US-SOVIET COOPERATION.

4. STRESSING THAT HE WAS NOT MAKING PROPOSALS BUT ONLY CITING ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES, HE MENTIONED THE FOLLOWING AS THE SORT OF PROJECTS HE HAD IN MIND:

A. THE CONSTRUCTION OF SIZEABLE METALLURGICAL PLANTS IN BOTH COUNTRIES UTILIZING NEW TECHNIQUES OF ELECTRO-METALLURGY.

B. CONSTRUCTION OF A LARGE HOSPITAL IN EACH COUNTRY WITH THE LATEST IN SOVIET AND US MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AND WITH MIXED SOVIET-US STAFFS.

C. A PROJECT TO DETERMINE AND CONSTRUCT "AN OPTIMAL SOLUTION" TO A CONCRETE TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM IN EACH COUNTRY.

D. ESTABLISHING AND JOINTLY OPERATING A LARGE MODEL FARM IN EACH COUNTRY, PERHAPS DEVOTED TO RESEARCH ON SEED SELECTION.

5. KOSYGIN STRESSED THAT WHAT HE HAS IN MIND IS A FEW MAJOR PROJECTS WHICH WILL BRING US AND SOVIET SCIENTISTS AND TECHNICIANS TOGETHER OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME IN A CONCRETE, PRODUCTIVE ENTERPRISE. HE OBSERVED THAT A FEW SUCH PROJECTS COULD BE THE SOURCE OF A MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT OF TRUST BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES, AND ASSURED STEVER THAT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO ALLOCATE ADEQUATE RESOURCES TO BRING THEM TO FRUITION. HE THEN REITERATED THAT HE HOPED STEVER AND KIRILLIN COULD DEVELOP PROPOSALS FOR TWO OR THREE SUCH PROJECTS.

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6. STEVER REPLIED THAT HE CONSIDERED KOSYGIN'S REMARKS QUITE TIMELY. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE S & T AGREEMENT IS A FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT WHICH HAS A YEAR AND A HALF TO RUN. IT IS CLEAR THAT SOME PROJECTS HAVE GONE BETTER THAN OTHERS. IN NEGOTIATING ON A NEW AGREEMENT OR AN EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT ONE, IT MAY BE BEST TO SELECT A FEW OF THE MORE SUCCESSFUL AREAS FOR CONCENTRATION. ALTHOUGH NOT ALL AREAS OF COOPERATION LEND

THEMSELVES TO THE SORT OF PROJECTS KOSYGIN MENTIONED, IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO TRY TO SELECT SOME POTENTIAL CANDIDATES TO PROCEED THIS WAY UNDER THE NEW AGREEMENT. (KOSYGIN INTERJECTED THAT HE DID NOT MEAN TO IMPLY THAT HIS SUGGESTED APPROACH WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR ALL.) STEVER ADDED THAT HE AGREED WITH KOSYGIN'S INITIAL REMARKS ABOUT THE NECESSITY OF MOVING PROJECTS FROM THE STAGE OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO ACTUAL WORK BY LABORATORY SCIENTISTS.

7. STEVER THEN POINTED OUT THAT WHILE SOME RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IS HANDLED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN THE US, OTHERS ARE CONDUCTED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY BY PRIVATE INDUSTRY. FOR EXAMPLE, PROJECTS IN ELECTRO-METALLURGY WOULD BE WITHIN THE PROVINCE OF PRIVATE FIRMS, WHILE MEDICINE WOULD FALL UNDER BOTH GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE (UNIVERSITY) CONTROL, AND WEATHER RESEARCH IS ENTIRELY GOVERNMENTAL. IT IS EASIER FOR US TO IMPLEMENT AGREEMENTS IN FIELDS WHERE THE GOVERNMENT IS THE PRIME AGENT. HE AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT KOSYGIN'S IDEA IS A GOOD ONE, AND THOUGHT THAT WE COULD AIM OVER THE NEXT YEAR TO SELECT SOME AREAS FOR CONCENTRATION. HE CONCLUDED BY REMARKING THAT WE ARE AT THE STATE OF CONSIDERING WHETHER WE SHOULD PROCEED FROM AN ENGAGEMENT TO A MARRIAGE IN THE FIELD OF S & T COOPERATION.

8. KOSYGIN REPLIED THAT THEY UNDERSTAND THAT MANY PROJECTS IN THE US MUST BE CARRIED OUT BY PRIVATE FIRMS, AND THEY HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THIS. "WE KNOW YOU ARE CAPITALISTS AND WE ARE NOT TRYING TO CHANGE YOUR SYSTEM." HE EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT HIS IDEAS WOULD BE CONSIDERED OVER THE NEXT YEAR, AND IN REGARD TO THE ENGAGEMENT-MARRIAGE SIMILE, SAID THAT HE COULD STATE UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT THE USSR IS IN FAVOR OF MARRIAGE.

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9. COMMENT: WE WERE STRUCK BY ENTHUSIASM AND SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH KOSYGIN SPOKE OF FUTURE S&T COOPERATION WITH US. HIS REMARKS SEEMED CLEARLY CALCULATED TO CONVEY THAT SOVIET GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS CONTINUATION OF US-USSR COOPERATION OF GREAT IMPORTANCE AND, IN STRESSING ITS ROLE IN DEVELOPING TRUST, IMPLIED THAT IT IS AN IMPORTANT UNDERPINNING OF DETENTE. WE BELIEVE THAT HIS IDEA OF SELECTING TWO OR THREE HIGH-VISIBILITY PROJECTS HAS MERIT AND THAT WE SHOULD MAKE AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE ARE POSSIBILITIES FOR DEVELOPING SUCH PROJECTS - NOT NECESSARILY THOSE HE MENTIONED- IN WHICH THE MUTUALITY OF BENEFIT WOULD BE CLEAR TO THE U.S. PUBLIC.

10. ALTHOUGH THE TERMS DETENTE OR EVEN IMPROVEMENT OF POLITICAL RELATIONS WERE NOT DIRECTLY USED BY KOSYGIN, IT

WAS IMPLICIT IN HIS APPROACH THAT IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS
WITH THE US REMAINS A FUNDAMENTAL SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY
OBJECTIVE. END COMMENT.
STOESSEL

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